



Borough of Slough

# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1951

*including the*

# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Chief Sanitary Inspector



# BOROUGH OF SLOUGH

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## HEALTH AND SANITATION COMMITTEE

January to May, 1951.

*Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. M. B. GIBSON.

*Vice-Chairman :*

ALDERMAN D. R. GOODCHILD.

ALDERMAN P. LIGHTFOOT, J.P.  
(Mayor) (ex-officio).

ALDERMAN E. W. LOBJOIT, J.P.

ALDERMAN F. R. WHITEMAN.

COUNCILLOR MISS W. M. ALBERT.

COUNCILLOR F. C. BOWYER.

COUNCILLOR A. BRAND.

COUNCILLOR H. OLDING

COUNCILLOR F. S. G. ROOM, J.P., C.C.

COUNCILLOR H. G. SHORT, J.P.

(Deputy Mayor).

COUNCILLOR W. S. STOVES.

May to December, 1951.

*Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. M. B. GIBSON.

*Vice-Chairman :*

COUNCILLOR F. C. BOWYER.

ALDERMAN D. R. GOODCHILD.

ALDERMAN P. LIGHTFOOT, J.P.  
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ALDERMAN E. W. LOBJOIT, J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. M. J. MORGAN.

ALDERMAN F. R. WHITEMAN.

COUNCILLOR MRS. D. M. MITCHELL.

COUNCILLOR H. OLDING.

COUNCILLOR F. S. G. ROOM, J.P., C.C.

COUNCILLOR H. G. SHORT, J.P.

(Deputy Mayor) (ex-officio).

COUNCILLOR W. S. STOVES.

COUNCILLOR F. WARWICK.

# Public Health Department Staff

## Medical Officer of Health :

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

## Chief Sanitary Inspector :

LESLIE A. STROUD, D.P.A., F.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (1, 3, 4, 5).

## Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

J. SAGAR, D.P.A., M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 4, 5).

## District Sanitary Inspectors :

L. HAGUE, M.S.I.A. (2, 3).

I. D. PRESTON, A.R.SAN.I. (2, 3).

J. A. QUIGG, M.S.I.A. (2, 3, 6, 7).

R. B. C. SMITH, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (2, 3).

B. C. UPTON, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (2, 3).

## District Sanitary Inspector (Junior) :

T. P. JARRETT (2) (Appointed 17.9.51)

## Pest Control Officer :

J. H. HYATT. (Appointed 19.2.51.)

## Public Analyst :

ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.,  
Stuart House, 1, Tudor Street, London, E.C.4.

## KEY TO QUALIFICATIONS.

1. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
2. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
3. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
4. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.
5. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Building and Public Works.
6. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute in Food Hygiene.
7. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
"GLENHARTIE,"  
15, BATH ROAD,  
SLOUGH.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Slough.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my third annual report—for the year 1951. This is a report for the first full calendar year for which I have been Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

I have to report with regret that, owing to a severe and prolonged illness, Alderman E. W. Lobjoit, J.P., was prevented from attending meetings of the Health and Sanitation Committee and was eventually forced to resign from the Council owing to ill-health.

The administrative arrangements of the Health Department remained as in the previous year but "Glenhartie," 15, Bath Road, became available in March, 1952 and I moved into the new premises with the Sanitary Inspectors, Home Helps Organiser, School Health Service and Laboratory, together with the necessary clerical staff. In general it may be said that the Slough Borough Council is responsible for environmental health services while the Bucks County Council looks after the local authority aspect of the personal health services. I maintain, however, a local responsibility for all these services and it was extremely difficult to effect a close liaison between the different sections which were scattered as widely as the Town Hall and Upton Towers. The advantage of the closer proximity of the various members of the Health Department has already become obvious from the closer contact which is now possible.

Among new legislation affecting the work of the Department was the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, which came into operation on 1st November, the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951, which amended conditions under which puerperal pyrexia is notified and came into force on the 1st April, and the Food Standards Order which operated from the 1st March, 1951, and laid down for the first time certain minimum contents of fat, sugar and milk solids in ice cream.

Vital statistics are set out fully in the body of the report with comments upon their significance but it would not be out of place in this summary to mention a few points of especial interest.

There was a halt in the decline of the birth rate which had been falling rapidly during the past few years: the crude rate was just a fraction higher than in 1950. The death rate showed a slight increase on the previous year but the infant mortality and still-birth rates attained new low records. It is interesting to note that nearly three-quarters of the deaths occurring in the first year of life happen in the first four weeks after birth and that the great majority of these are associated with prematurity. Increasing attention has been paid to the care of premature infants during the past few years and many babies now survive who would formerly have died; much better than the improved treatment of prematurity would be its prevention but although research into this is being carried out neither prematurity nor congenital malformations can yet be prevented.

Streptococcal diseases were very mild and few in number but the incidence of whooping cough was higher than normal and there was a



very large epidemic of measles during the early months of the year. Here again, however, the infectious diseases, with the exception of poliomyelitis were, as a rule, mild in nature. The number of cases of poliomyelitis was about the same as in 1950. The incidence throughout the country as a whole was considerably less in 1951 than it had been during the previous year but Slough was not fortunate enough to partake of this reduction although it cannot be said that the incidence at any time approached epidemic proportions. In practice the monkey is the only animal which can be used for the study of the spread of the disease and until other methods of growing the virus easily can be produced the method of spread is extremely difficult to determine but it is probable that the disease is, in most instances, conveyed by contagion.

The other major infectious disease, pulmonary tuberculosis, showed a further notified increase in 1951 although no doubt some of the increase was due to better notification following the visit of the Mass X-Ray Unit. One important feature of the campaign against tuberculosis which is often overlooked is the reduction in the death rate. While it is true that this was slightly higher than that shown by the phenomenally low figures in 1950, if that year is excluded the continual decline in the death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis has been maintained.

There was a slight change in the principal causes of death. Heart disease and cancer still took first and second places respectively, but pneumonia and bronchitis equalled vascular lesions of the nervous system in third place and accidents increased to share the next place on the list with tuberculosis; other diseases of the circulatory system remained in seventh place.

The constant watch on the quality of foods and drugs offered for sale was maintained by the Sanitary Inspectors and it will be seen in the main report that a higher proportion of ice cream samples was satisfactory, the best feature being that over 75% samples were in Grade I. This improvement reflects credit not only upon the Health Department staff but also upon the manufacturers and distributors who are becoming increasingly aware of the necessity for clean food. The Council increased the number of Sanitary Inspectors during the year and much more attention has since been paid to premises concerned with the handling, storing or selling of foodstuffs. In the Chief Sanitary Inspector's section of the report the system upon which the campaign is being conducted is outlined but insufficient information on the working of the scheme is available for this report. The subject will receive its full share of attention in 1952.

I wish to thank the Members of the Health and Sanitation Committee in particular, and the Council in general for their encouragement and support during the year. To Councillor Mrs. J. M. B. Gibson, Chairman of the Health Committee, I would wish to add a special word of appreciation.

I cannot end this report without recording my thanks to all members of the staff of the Health Department who have continued to give me such loyal support and I am sure that the closer contact attained by the re-organisation of office accommodation during 1952 will lead to even greater co-ordination of effort in future.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT,

JULY, 1952.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1951

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area .....	6,276 acres
Population : Census, April, 1951 .....	66,439
Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-1951 .....	66,430
Number of dwelling houses, including flats, at 31st March, 1952 (according to Rate books) .....	17,349
Rateable value as at 31st March, 1952 .....	£600,669
Estimated product of Penny Rate 1952/1953 .....	£2,425

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951.

<b>Live Births :</b>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	497	473	970
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	25	56
Totals .....					528	498	1,026

Birth rate per 1,000 population = 15.44.

<b>Still-Births :</b>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	9	20
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
Totals .....					12	9	21

Still-birth rate (per 1,000 total births) = 20.06

Still-birth rate per 1,000 population :

Slough = 0.32

England & Wales = 0.36

<b>Deaths :</b>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) =					305	284	589

Corrected Death Rate (allowing for sex and age) = 10.73

(Comparability figure = 1.21)

National Death Rate = 12.5 per 1,000 population.

Ratio of Local Adjusted Death Rate to National Rate = 0.86

### Maternal Deaths :

Number of women dying in, or as a consequence of pregnancy = 1

### Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age).

<b>Deaths :</b>					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	14	24
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	-	-	-
Totals .....					10	14	24

Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births = 23.4

National rate per 1,000 live births = 29.6

# Neo-natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age).

Deaths :				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	6	11	17
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	-	-	-
				—	—	—
Totals	.....	.....	.....	6	11	17
				—	—	—

Rate for all infants under 28 days of age per 1,000 live births = 16.57

## Death Rates per 1,000 population :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	.....	.....	0.24
All forms of Tuberculosis	.....	.....	0.26
Cancer	.....	.....	2.02

## Other Deaths :

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cancer	.....	.....	66	68	134
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	-	1	1
Diphtheria	.....	.....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	.....	.....	10	6	16
Non-Pulmonary	.....	.....	1	-	1



# **I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.**

## **NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**

Work was continued as rapidly as possible on the extension of the sewage works but had not progressed sufficiently during 1951 to allow building to be carried out in all areas. New housing, therefore, had to be confined to the Cippenham drainage area and this meant that the number of new houses erected during the year was again small; 72 as compared with 114 in 1950. It is hoped that building will be commenced in other areas of the town during 1953 and plans are being prepared so that erection of new houses may begin as soon as the sewage disposal position allows.

Rainfall was particularly heavy during the autumn of 1950 and the early months of 1951 and this led, in some cases, to the overloading of an already overburdened sewage system.

## **VITAL STATISTICS.**

### **BIRTHS.**

After allowing for inward and outward transfers, the Registrar-General credited the Borough with 1,026 live births in 1951: 528 were males and 498 were females.

Of these, 56 were illegitimate (31 males and 25 females). This number is 5.46 per cent. of the total live births and represents an increase of 0.67 per cent. on the figure for 1950.

The birth rate for 1951 was 15.44 per 1,000 of the population and this is 0.03 per 1,000 higher than that for 1950 (15.41).

From 1943 to 1947 the birth rate showed a very great increase but fell rapidly from 1947 onwards until the rate in 1949 was not only the lowest recorded since 1927 but also fell below that for the country as a whole. It was thus obvious that the high rates experienced in the early post-war years was merely a passing phase but the decrease was so rapid after that period that it was a matter of serious concern to know at what new level the rate would become stabilised. The figures for 1951 show a halt in the downward slope but although this may mean that the lowest point has been reached it seems unlikely that there will be a significant increase in the birth rate of this town in the near future.

### **ILLEGITIMACY.**

The number of illegitimate births showed an increase this year: 56 as compared with 49 in 1950. This means that 5.46% of births were illegitimate as compared with 4.80% for 1950. Since the war there had been a gradual decrease in illegitimacy and it is strange that there should have been a reversal of this trend in 1951. The numbers are, however, statistically very small and the change may be of little or no real significance.

### **STILL-BIRTHS.**

The registered number of still-births was 21 (12 males and 9 females); one male still-birth was illegitimate. This figure gives a still-birth rate of 20.06 per 1,000 total births or 0.32 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 23.94 and 0.36 for 1950.

The still-birth rate, after decreasing for four years showed a rise in 1950 over the extremely low rate experienced in 1949. Again, with small numbers, these fluctuations must be expected but the rate of 0.32 for 1951 is lower than has ever been experienced before in this town and is below the National average of 0.36 per 1,000 of the population.

## DEATHS.

After correction for transferable deaths, the net total assigned by the Registrar-General to the Borough was 589 (305 males and 284 females), an increase of 11 on the total for 1950.

The tables on pages 9 and 10 show the sex and age distribution and causes of death for 1951. Of the total deaths 287 (49.3%) occurred in persons aged 70 or over and 352 (60.48%) in persons over the age of 65.

The crude death rate was 8.86 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 8.71 for the previous year. The corrected death rate, which takes age and sex of the local population into consideration was 10.73 and this is the figure which can be compared with the National rate of 12.5.

The death rate has shown an increase for two years running and although no specific reason was discovered for the increase of deaths in 1950 over those for 1949, there was a widespread epidemic of influenza during the early months of 1951. Slough was relatively lightly affected by the disease itself but there was a rise in deaths from all forms of chest troubles generally during the early months of the year. In addition to this it will be noticed that deaths from cancer have risen to 134 (22.75% of all deaths) while the previous highest figure of 101 was experienced in 1949; most interesting is the number of cases of cancer of the lung from which no less than 30 persons died (25 men and 5 women).

The sudden increase in deaths from cancer of all forms is unexpected. The lowest death rate per thousand of the population since 1932, when details were first available, was 1.01 and there was a gradual increase since that date until 1949 when the rate was 1.52; there was a slight decrease to 1.45 per 1,000 population in 1950. It seems most unlikely that the incidence of cancer has in fact increased by over 28% in one year particularly as there has been no radical change in procedure for tabulating deaths. It is true that diagnosis of cancer has been improving over the years but the intensity of search for the disease has not increased by such a great amount in one year. It must be presumed that the accuracy of death certificates is no more and no less accurate than in previous years and for loss of a better explanation I can only suggest that there was in fact a sudden increase in deaths from cancer during 1951 and that this is likely to return more nearly to the usual rate in 1952. The Mortality rate for this disease over the country as a whole is not yet available.

The chief causes of death vary from generation to generation, and it was not very many years ago that the infectious diseases headed the list. As is well known, these diseases are now rarely killers and others have taken their place. The main causes of death during 1951, in numerical order were:—

Heart diseases .....	155
Cancer .....	134
Pneumonia and bronchitis .....	} 66
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	
Tuberculosis, all forms .....	} 17
Accidents, all types .....	
Other diseases of circulatory system .....	15

CAUSES OF DEATH.	1950		1951	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	10	3	10	6
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	2	1	—
3. Syphilitic disease	2	2	3	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	2	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	8	19	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	15	3	25	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	13	—	16
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	—	14
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	31	16	19	27
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	3	3	—
16. Diabetes	1	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	40	41	25	41
18. Coronary disease, angina	50	21	38	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease	12	8	9	12
20. Other heart disease	45	50	31	54
21. Other circulatory disease	9	11	6	9
22. Influenza	4	3	4	4
23. Pneumonia	13	5	13	10
24. Bronchitis	13	8	35	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	8	1	2	3
26. Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	9	2	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	—	3	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	—	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	3	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	2	—	1
31. Congenital malformations	3	1	—	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	38	30	28	34
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	1	5	—
34. All other accidents	1	8	6	6
35. Suicide	1	1	8	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	1	1	—
All causes	331	247	305	284

## SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1951.

Below is given the age and sex distribution of all deaths recorded by the local Registrar of Births and Deaths as occurring during the year 1951.

The total figures vary slightly from those given by the Registrar-General as some notifications reach his office somewhat later than normal and these are included by him in his return for the following year. The figures given here include all deaths which actually occurred during 1951 irrespective of their date of notification and the variation is not sufficient to make a significant difference in the age and sex distribution given below.



Ages at Death in Years.				Males	Females	Total
Under 1	.....	.....	.....	10	14	24
1—	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
10—	.....	.....	.....	3	4	7
25—	.....	.....	.....	29	19	48
45—	.....	.....	.....	84	63	147
65—	.....	.....	.....	43	22	65
				— 171	— 124	— 295
70—	.....	.....	.....	53	38	91
75—	.....	.....	.....	35	41	76
80—	.....	.....	.....	29	42	71
85—	.....	.....	.....	13	17	30
90—	.....	.....	.....	4	13	17
95 and over	.....	.....	.....	-	2	2
				— 134	— 153	— 287
				305	277	582

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

One death was attributed directly to pregnancy or childbearing during the year under review. This is equivalent to a maternal mortality rate of 0.96 per 1,000 live and still-births.

### INFANT MORTALITY.

After correction for inward and outward transfers, there were 24 deaths (10 males and 14 females) of infants under the age of 1 year.

This figure of 24 is five less than the number recorded in 1950 and the rate of 23.4 per 1,000 which this represents is the lowest which has ever been recorded in this town.

As mentioned last year when the figure was slightly higher than the year before, one must always be guarded in making comparisons when comparatively small numbers are involved as a variation of one or two in the number can make a considerable difference to the rate.

It is, however, very gratifying to record the fact that the downward trend has been resumed, and it must now be a matter of speculation as to how much further this new low record can be reduced. That it can be lowered is known, because the infant death rates in some other countries, including Australia and New Zealand, are lower than those found in this country: whether this is almost the ultimate limit only time will tell.

Year .....	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
England and Wales	50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43	41	34	32	29.8
Slough	47.3	46.8	47.9	40.4	40.2	37.3	32.5	31.1	39.9	31.1	25.5	28.4

### NEO-NATAL MORTALITY.

The table overleaf divides the deaths of infants under one year of age into causes and into periods of less than one year. It shows deaths in varying periods up to 28 days (neo-natal period) and also in further varying periods

up to 1 year. Of the 24 infants who died in their first year of life, 17 (or 70.8%) died in the neo-natal period which gives a neo-natal mortality rate of 16.57 per thousand live births. In 1950 the rate was 19.6 and 68.9% of deaths in the first year of life occurred before babies had reached the age of 28 days.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 day	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months	4-6 months	7-9 months	10-12 months	Total under 1 year
Cerebral haemorrhage .....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-enteritis (infective and post-infective) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Atelectasis .....	4	3	—	—	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Congenital malformations	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Intestinal obstruction .....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Kernicterus and erythroblastosis .....	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity .....	1	1	1	—	3	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Accidental .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	3
TOTAL .....	6	6	2	1	15	1	1	17	5	2	—	—	24



## INQUESTS.

Thirty-four inquests were held upon residents of the Borough during 1951, and the causes of death as recorded by the Registrar of Births and Deaths are set out in the following table:—

Causes of Death :					Males	Females	Total
Natural Causes	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	8
Accidents :—							
Falls	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
By Motor Vehicles	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	-	4
By Railway Locomotives	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
Scalding and Burns	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
Post-Operative	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
Drowning	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
							(14)
Suicide :—							
Coal Gas Poisoning	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	2	5
Hanging	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	-	2
Aspirin Poisoning	.....	.....	.....	.....	-	1	1
By Railway Locomotive	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
Drowning	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2
							(11)
Homicide	.....	.....	.....	.....	-	-	-
Operations of war	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	-	1
					23	11	34
					—	—	—

The number of accidental deaths in 1951 was two less than in 1950. The figures speak for themselves but it is interesting to note that all deaths due to motor vehicle accidents were in elderly men.

The number of suicides, however, rose very steeply from two in 1950 to eleven in 1951.

## POPULATION.

The census in April, 1951, and the first to be taken since 1931, showed that there is at the present time little alteration in the population of this Borough.

The census population was 66,439, and it should be noted how accurate have been the Registrar-General's estimates; for the quarter ended 31st March, 1951, he estimated the population of the Borough to be 66,430.

This is the third year in which I have reported that the population has remained almost constant and it might be imagined that little movement is taking place. It is worth while taking notice, therefore, of a publication produced by the Registrar-General in 1951, called "Internal Migration." This publication gives the result of some studies which were carried out between 1st October, 1948, and 30th September, 1949, and consisted of recorded movements of population in certain local authorities during that year. Slough was one of the twelve towns studied and it was discovered that no less than 5,303 people moved into the town from other areas and 5,521 moved out. Of these 3,201 came in from towns or villages less than 40 miles away while 2,102 travelled more than 40 miles to live here. Of the emigrants 3,363 moved less than 40 miles while 2,158 went further. In addition to this 472 came from overseas and 572 emigrated from this country.

An analysis of the sex and age distribution of these people who moved showed that young male and female adults predominated while the number of children in the 5—9 age group was below that expected.

When all known factors were taken into account the Registrar-General commented that, although the evidence was by no means conclusive it seemed likely that the desire or ability to make a change of locality was appreciably less among families with children, particularly if the children were of school age, than among families without children.

It will also be noted that a substantial proportion of the movements were over a sufficiently long distance to make it evident that changes in jobs as well as changes of homes were involved.

The survey does not differentiate between those families who moved once or more than once.

During the year under review the population rose by 99. The natural increase was 437 and there was, therefore, a loss of 338 by emigration from the town.

## II. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

### Cleansing and Disinfestation.

There has been no change in the arrangements by which disinfestation of bedding and personal effects have been carried out at the disinfestor which is supplied by steam from the destructor at Chalvey Pumping Station.

Personal cleansing, where necessary, has been carried out in the patient's own home as no cleansing station exists in this town. There was no indication that the installation of such a station was necessary.

### Disposal of Refuse.

The greater part of the refuse is dealt with at the destructor situated in Chalvey but as this is of insufficient capacity to deal with all refuse, controlled tipping on low-lying land near the Datchet Road has continued. This tipping will eventually be useful as land prone to flooding is being raised, but difficulties will be increasing throughout the years as suitable land for tipping is not easy to find. The Council will be faced with the necessity of extending the destructor in the comparatively near future or else giving consideration to some method of refuse digestion. Although this latter scheme may not be economic if planned purely on a Borough basis, it may be worth investigating if other local authorities in the neighbourhood can be persuaded to join with Slough in making the best use of refuse collected.

This does not mean, of course, that strenuous efforts have not been made to separate useful materials from the general refuse. The principle of saving as much material as possible has been adhered to and considerable income has resulted from the sale of metals, rags, etc., with special value being obtained from waste paper.

### Kitchen Waste.

The Borough Council, by employing a contractor, continued the collection of waste food from householders. The Ministry of Food is anxious for the Borough Council to undertake the collection of all kitchen waste but it has not yet been possible to do this, although it is the policy of the Council to extend its service wherever possible.

It is felt by many people, and especially by those who breed pigs, that the Council should leave the collection of waste food in the hands of private

persons who, in some cases, have been dealing with this material for a considerable time. Unfortunately these people have no plant for the adequate sterilisation of the food and in most cases animals can come into contact with the raw food. This raw food can be dangerous and there is little doubt that outbreaks of swine fever, foot and mouth disease and fowl pest have been spread by incomplete sterilisation and uncontrolled handling of kitchen waste. Adequate processing in premises where no animals are kept is the only solution to this problem and a local authority, or combination of local authorities, are the only bodies with sufficient resources to erect and run a plant of this nature.

## Water.

There was no change in the water undertakings who supply water for consumption in the Borough. They are the Slough Corporation, the Burnham, Dorney & Hitcham Waterworks Co. Ltd., and the Slough Estates Ltd.

### Slough Corporation Water Supply.

The water supplied by the Corporation continued to be satisfactory both in quantity and in quality. 14,894 houses were served.

Bacteriological analyses were continued on a weekly basis and, although the examinations were normally performed in the Town Hall Laboratory, samples were sent quarterly to an independent analyst. In all cases the results showed a high degree of purity and no trace of bacterial contamination.

### Burnham, Dorney & Hitcham Waterworks Co. Ltd.

46 new properties were added to the load of this waterworks which now supplies 2,806 dwelling houses with a population of over 10,000. Thirty bacteriological examinations and five chemical analyses were made during 1951 and in all cases the bacterial purity was maintained and the chemical constitution remained normal.

### Slough Estates Ltd., Water Supply.

Slough Estates Ltd. have continued to provide the necessary water for factories and canteens on the Slough Trading Estate and, in addition, give a piped water supply to about 70 dwelling houses. No changes occurred during the year and the high standard of quality and quantity was maintained.

The result of a typical chemical analysis is given below :—

(Chemical Values are given in parts per million)

Appearance	.....	Bright with a few mineral particles.	
Reaction	.....	pH	7.5
Free Carbon Di-oxide	.....		10
Electric conductivity	.....		560
Total solids	.....		375
Chlorine as Chloride	.....		43
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....		220
Hardness: Total	.....		75
Temporary	.....		75
Permanent	.....		Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates	.....		Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrites	.....		less than 0.01
Free Ammonia	.....		0.17
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....		Nil
Oxygen absorbed	.....		0.15
Metals	.....	Iron 0.14, other metals absent.	



### **Swimming Bath Water.**

The swimming baths at Baylis House and the Community Centre continued in use during 1951. The one at the Community Centre is heated and covered and so is in use throughout the year, but the Baylis House pool, which is neither covered nor heated is, of course only used during the summer months.

Regular samples were taken from both for bacteriological analysis and examinations at the Town Hall Laboratory showed that all samples were satisfactory.

### **Sewage Disposal.**

Work on extensions to the main sewage treatment works continued during 1951 and some difficulty was experienced in constructional work during the early part of the year owing to the excessive rainfall during the winter of 1950/1951. As mentioned last year, the steadily increasing volume of sewage combined with the major work on extensions caused difficulties in the maintenance of the high degree of effluent purification, but the temporary remedial measures which the Sewage Works Manager introduced from time to time meant that little deterioration was, in effect, noted.

### **Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.**

It was not necessary to take action during 1951 under this section which provides for the removal to a suitable place of persons who are in need of care and attention through age or disease. This step is only taken, of course, in extreme cases where the person concerned is likely to suffer injury to health by remaining in his or her house or where there is serious nuisance to other persons.

### **Dental Caries and the Fluorine Content of Drinking Water.**

Following reports from many parts of the world of a low incidence of dental caries in communities living in areas where the drinking water has a high fluorine content, the Ministry of Health decided to make some investigations in this country. Three widely separated high-fluorine areas and three comparable low-fluorine areas were selected and comparison made between the extent of dental caries existing in each of the paired towns. Once again, a national experiment has local interest as Slough, with a high-fluorine content in the daily drinking water, was compared with Reading which has very little fluorine in the water.

Mothers attending ante-natal and infant welfare centres and children attending day nurseries, infant welfare centres and nursery schools were examined, and only those who were born and had spent their childhood in the district were included.

It was discovered that the incidence of dental caries was lower in every age group in the high-fluorine areas and that the reduction in caries was already apparent between 2 and 3 years of age.

Slough would thus appear fortunate in possessing a water-supply which contains enough fluorine to have a beneficial effect upon teeth without an excess which may lead to fluorine poisoning. The town has no need, either, to enter into the controversy which is raging upon the ethics and economics of adding fluorine to the drinking water artificially.

### **Clean Food Campaign.**

As mentioned in my report for 1950, the Council decided to appoint an Additional Sanitary Inspector so that more attention could be paid to the improvement of hygiene in food premises. An additional member

of the staff was, in fact, appointed during 1951 and a systematic survey is being made of food premises throughout the town. As the survey is proceeding steps are being taken to improve the conditions under which food is prepared, stored and sold, but insufficient details are available to make a detailed report this year; progress will, however, be given in the 1952 report.

The Health Department provided a section in the Municipal Exhibition which was held in conjunction with the Annual Carnival at Agar's Plough in August. The exhibits which attracted considerable attention dealt not only with Hygiene of Food but also with Pest Control and Smoke Abatement.

## LABORATORY.

During the year the following specimens were examined :—

	Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli .....	—	91
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci .....	7	29
Swabs for Vincents Angina .....	1	4
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli .....	3	21
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli .....	—	1
Urine for routine examinations .....		75
Faeces for organisms of Coli-Typhoid group .....	—	2
Blood Counts .....		13
Blood samples for Widal reaction .....	1	11
Pus for Gonococci .....	—	5
Miscellaneous specimens .....		16

	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory
Milk samples :—		
(a) Phosphatase test .....	67	—
(b) Methylene blue test .....	191	1
(c) Coliform test .....	70	28
(d) Turbidity test .....	9	—
(e) Chemical tests for fats, solids and water .....	90	29

Water samples :—

(a) Drinking water .....	38	5
(b) Swimming pool water .....	38	—

Ice cream samples :—

Grade I .....	153
Grade II .....	21
Grade III .....	15
Grade IV .....	10
Other tests .....	3

Ice cream samples examined in the Laboratory were classified into four grades according to the length of time needed to decolourise a solution of methylene blue under certain specific conditions. While Grades I and II can be regarded as satisfactory and Grades III and IV as unsatisfactory, no manufacturer or distributor should be satisfied with anything below Grade I.



The comparison between ice cream grades discovered in 1950 and 1951 are given below, and it is interesting to note that a considerable improvement was achieved during 1951, the proportion of satisfactory samples rising from 83% to 87.5%.

	Number of samples		Percentage of samples	
	1950	1951	1950	1951
Grade I. ....	55	153	43.7	76.9
Grade II. ....	50	21	39.7	10.6
Grade III. ....	14	15	11.1	7.5
Grade IV. ....	7	10	5.5	5.0

This Department can never be satisfied unless 100% satisfactory samples are obtained consistently and in all cases where samples are unsatisfactory extra visits are made by Sanitary Inspectors to discuss the causes of the trouble and to give advice on eradication of errors; frequent sampling is continued until the high standard has been regained.

### BOROUGH MORTUARY.

62 post-mortem examinations were carried out at the Borough Mortuary during 1951. The number during the previous year was 85.

### HOME HELPS SERVICE.

The Home Helps Service which is run by a Home Helps Organiser of the Bucks County Council under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health as Area Medical Officer for South Bucks, continued its work during 1951. Facilities are provided as fully as possible for cases in need but considerable care has to be taken, of course, to prevent abuse of the service.

Number of Home Helps as at 31.12.51 :—

- (a) Full-time ..... Nil
- (b) Part-time ..... 42

Number of cases who received help during 1951 :—

- (a) Acute sick ..... 71
- (b) Chronic sick..... 281
- (c) Tuberculous..... 18
- (d) Maternity ..... 50

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Total ..... 420

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### III. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases during 1951.

Showing cases notified during 1951. Numbers admitted to Hospital and Deaths. Also notifications for years 1940-1950.

	Cases Notified 1951	Cases admitted to Hospital 1951	Deaths 1951	Population in thousands										
				66	66	66	64	63	60	61	62	64	65	60
				Total cases notified during										
				1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	33	6	—	54	33	66	44	77	113	151	120	63	80	72
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	16	8	30	23	5	38	91
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	5	—	5	9	8	12	17	6	10	9	10	13	15
Pneumonia	44	4	4	32	14	20	27	22	28	33	34	27	26	34
Erysipelas	12	1	—	14	15	14	20	24	9	7	22	5	28	22
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	1
Measles	1,681	—	—	76	416	748	168	859	826	29	995	179	258	998
Whooping Cough	226	3	1	98	118	328	171	280	92	146	164	36	224	64
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	—	—	1	4	7	1	6	5	5	8	10	18
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	7	6	—	7	3	9	5	1	2	—	—	2	28	2
Non-Paralytic	7	7	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis : Infective	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Measles	44	158	623	470	249	111	15	10	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	74	65	31	14	12	13	8	3	3	2	1	—
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary	5	4	4	18	9	6	10	9	—	10	8	5
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	1	2	—	1	1	3	—	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever	—	2	1	—	2	2	2	—	4	5	8	7
Erysipelas	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	3	—
Pneumonia	20	8	2	3	1	—	1	4	—	—	5	—
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	—
Non-Paralytic	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—
Sonne Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis : Infective	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

Showing Incidence in Wards of Borough.

TABLE III.

	Burnham North	Burnham South	Central North	Central South	Chalvey	Farnham North	Farnham South	Langley	Stoke North	Stoke South	Upton
Measles	136	274	205	65	132	199	142	170	186	105	67
Whooping Cough	11	31	53	12	24	15	18	17	22	7	16
Tuberculosis : Pulmonary	6	6	8	3	8	18	9	5	12	4	9
Non-Pulmonary	3	1	3	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	11	8	1	2	2	2	3	—	3	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	4	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	1	2	5	4	8	5	4	—	1	3	11
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Sonne Dysentery	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis : Infective	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-Infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—

## DIPHTHERIA.

There have now been no cases of diphtheria in this Borough since 1948, and it must seem to many people that this scourge has been completely and finally removed. It is true that the disease in its epidemic form has virtually ceased to exist in this country owing to the success of the diphtheria immunisation campaign, but cases do still occur and there is no doubt that if the number of children immunised continued to fall major outbreaks of diphtheria would once again become prevalent.

Diphtheria immunisation has been one of the most dramatic successes of preventive medicine in the past few years and every effort to continue its success is made by the members of the Health Department. Medical Officers of the County Public Health Services are daily carrying out inoculations and during 1951, 855 children received their primary inoculation, while 1,256 children had renewal doses. These "renewals" are given at school entry to produce an increased immunity when the child comes into contact with large numbers of children for the first time and again at about the age of 10 years when the effect of the first "renewal" has partially disappeared.

The figures for 1951 show a decrease of 16 original immunisations compared with 1950 but an increase of 388 "renewals".

## WHOOPING COUGH.

226 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during 1951 compared with 98 in 1950.

The cases were spread fairly evenly throughout the Borough and all but 17 occurred during the first half of the year; 139 were notified in January and February. Although the incidence was high during the autumn of 1950, and the beginning of 1951, it cannot be said that the disease reached epidemic proportions. The number of cases notified was the third highest since Whooping Cough became notifiable towards the end of 1939.

1940	.....	64
1941	.....	224
1942	.....	36
1943	.....	164
1944	.....	146
1945	.....	92
1946	.....	280
1947	.....	171
1948	.....	328
1949	.....	118
1950	.....	98
1951	.....	226

On the whole the disease was not severe but there was one death.

The greatest danger normally exists during the first year of life and all possible precautions must be taken to keep young children suffering from this disease away from babies. When the disease is mild this is often not easy as the condition may be undiagnosed for some time and as the sufferers are not subject to the normal restrictions there is time for the disease to spread.



## WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

There is increasing evidence to show that Whooping Cough Immunisation is of value and may well cause a subsequent attack of the disease to be mild even if prevention is not perfect. Whooping Cough immunisation was continued at parents' request, usually in conjunction with Diphtheria immunisation, and 508 children were afforded protection in 1951; this is nine less than in 1950.

## SCARLET FEVER.

Only 33 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year compared with 54 in 1950. Previous low figures were found in 1949 (33) and 1928 (28) but in the case of the earlier year the population was, of course, much smaller.

A further indication of the mild nature of the disease was the fact that only six of these cases were admitted to hospital. No deaths from this disease occurred.

## ERYSIPELAS.

12 cases, the lowest number since 1945, were notified during 1951. Only one was admitted to hospital and no deaths resulted from this disease.

## PNEUMONIA.

44 cases of Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia were notified during 1951; other forms of pneumonia are not notifiable. 33 of these cases occurred in the first four months of the year when the country as a whole was suffering from a widespread epidemic of influenza. Slough was not affected seriously by the epidemic but the incidence of chest diseases rose rapidly during the early months of the year and the 44 cases notified was the highest so far recorded. There were four deaths from the notifiable pneumonias.

## MEASLES.

1951 saw the greatest epidemic of measles so far experienced in this town. There were no less than 1,681 cases notified and all but 70 occurred in February, March, April and May, with March as the peak month. Measles epidemics can be expected roughly at intervals of two years and it was not surprising that an epidemic occurred during these months as the previous outbreak took place during the late part of 1948 and the early part of 1949.

In view of the extremely high incidence it was indeed fortunate that the disease, although naturally severe in some cases, was on the whole very mild, and it is very pleasant to be able to report that not a single death occurred from measles during the year.

Much of the fear caused by measles in the past lay in the unfortunate complications which so often accompanied the disease and there is no doubt that the use of modern drugs such as sulphonamides, penicillin and the other antibiotics, has largely caused the disappearance of the dreaded pneumonia which was so often a sequel to the original measles which may or may not have been very severe. There has also, however, been an undoubted decrease in the violence of the disease itself.

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Six cases of puerperal pyrexia occurred during 1951 as compared with 5 in 1950; 4 of these occurred during the latter part of the year.

The Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951, came into operation on 1st August, 1951, and under these new regulations any febrile condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4°F or more occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage became notifiable. Under previous regulations this condition had to occur for at least twenty-four hours or on more than one occasion during the fourteen days; this definition was found to be ambiguous and, in addition, the use of various drugs now freely available often reduced the temperature promptly and so prevented an infection becoming notifiable because the temperature was not maintained or did not recur.

The Minister of Health felt that there might be a greater risk of spread of infection from such cases in maternity hospitals if the cases were not notifiable and so subject to the ordinary measures of control and he, therefore, introduced the new regulations with the more exact definitions.

## ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis).

Although the number of cases of poliomyelitis occurring in England and Wales as a whole was much less than in the previous year Slough was not fortunate enough to share this reduction and fourteen cases were notified in 1951 compared with 15 in 1950. Once again the main incidence was between June and November and eleven cases occurred during this period, the remaining three being notified in February. During 1950 it was noted that the first five cases diagnosed were non-paralytic while six of the last nine cases were paralytic; during 1951 no such differentiation of paralytic and non-paralytic cases was obvious but it was unusual to find that 10 out of the 14 cases were in males. There were no deaths.

The table below gives the age and sex incidence of cases occurring in Slough during 1951.

	Paralytic.		Non-Paralytic.		Total.	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—	1	—	1	—	2	—
5—	1	—	1	—	2	—
15—	1	—	1	2	2	2
25—	1	1	1	1	2	2
35—	1	—	—	—	1	—
45—50	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	6	1	4	3	10	4

## FOOD POISONING.

Total No. of Outbreaks.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Organisms or other agents responsible.	Food involved.
One.	19	Nil.	Unknown.	Unknown.

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred at the Slough Occupation Centre on the 29th May, 1951. 16 pupils out of a total of 25 and all three teachers were taken ill during the evening of that day with diarrhoea and vomiting, and 9 of the affected children were kept away from school the next day as a result; all had recovered within forty-eight hours.

The only common food factor was the mid-day meal delivered to the school in containers and eaten the same day after being kept warm in the oven for a short time.

The meals had been cooked and sent out by the Penn Road Cooking Depot, and the same Depot served a similar meal to another 879 pupils and 58 staff at various other schools; no reports of any untoward effects were received from any persons other than those attending the Occupation Centre.

The meal under suspicion consisted of roast lamb, mashed potatoes, dried peas and beans, gravy and semolina pudding flavoured with orange and covered with a small amount of jam. There was a complaint about the sour smell and taste of the semolina pudding at the Occupation Centre, and this complaint was also found at Manor Park Hall.

Bacteriological examinations were made of the remains of the semolina pudding, and samples of vomit and faeces of the victims were also subjected to examination; no other food remains were available. In no case was any cause for the outbreak found.

The outstanding feature about this outbreak is that only the Occupation Centre was affected, and in spite of extensive enquiries no cause for the outbreak could be found. The reasons for the outbreak occurring in and being limited to the Occupation Centre must, therefore, remain a mystery.

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

Vaccination against smallpox is no longer compulsory and the number of primary vaccinations dropped from 504 in 1950 to 343 in 1951. There were, however, 205 re-vaccinations in 1951 compared with 113 in 1950. A considerable proportion of this increase is probably due to the attempt at bringing hospital and health staff vaccinations up-to-date at the time of the outbreak of smallpox in Brighton which occurred in December 1950 and January 1951.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

There was again an increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified. 88 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were brought to my attention compared with 79 in 1950 but the 13 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were 3 fewer than in the previous year.

As mentioned in my report for 1950 the constant increase in cases of tuberculosis over the past few years caused considerable alarm and strenuous efforts were made by the Borough Council and the Slough Council of Social Service to persuade the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board to carry out a Mass X-Ray Survey in Slough. This was done in 1951 and some notes on the survey are given at the end of this section. Twenty-one cases were discovered during the Mass X-Ray survey and although it will never be known which of these cases were notified, it can, I think safely be assumed that the great majority took the advice given by the Unit, were treated and also notified. It is probable, therefore, that the number of



cases notified was higher than would have been expected in the normal way but even so there must be a number of cases about whom nothing is known and who possibly do not even themselves suspect the presence of the disease.

In my report for 1950 I felt that fears must be expressed as to whether the extremely low death rate of 0.19 per 1,000 population recorded in that year would be repeated. These fears were unfortunately borne out by the figure for 1951 as the deaths rose from 13 pulmonary in 1950 to 16 pulmonary in 1951. Only one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred compared with three in 1950.

The 16 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis gave a death rate of 0.24 per 1,000 population but while this is 0.05 per 1,000 more than in 1950 the downward trend, excluding that year, has been maintained, and this alone must cause some satisfaction. The death rate for all forms of tuberculosis in Slough was 0.26 per 1,000 while that for England and Wales as a whole was 0.31 per thousand.

**Table showing age and sex distribution of Primary Notifications.**

Age in years.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	4	1	—	—
5—	3	6	1	1
15—	7	15	—	—
25—	12	8	3	2
35—	10	4	—	2
45—	6	1	—	2
55—	6	1	—	—
65 and over	3	1	1	1
Total	51	37	5	8

### NOTIFICATION REGISTER.

Number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Notification Register on 31st December, 1951.

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
319	247	566	43	55	98

### NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The sites of the new cases entered in the Notification Register during the year were as follows :—

	Males	Females.
Chest wall	1	-
Epididymis	2	-
Glands	2	4
Knee and wrist	-	1
Kidney	-	1
Shoulder	-	1
Wrist	-	1
	5	8

## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Population.	Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary Death rate per 1,000 population.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1940	60,670	2	3	11	15	0.43
1941	65,350	4	6	14	18	0.49
1942	64,420	3	2	11	13	0.37
1943	62,960	1	—	19	13	0.51
1944	61,250	4	1	18	14	0.52
1945	60,220	5	1	14	12	0.43
1946	63,040	2	1	16	17	0.52
1947	64,240	2	4	17	10	0.42
1948	66,060	2	2	17	12	0.44
1949	66,320	—	—	13	9	0.33
1950	66,340	1	2	10	3	0.19
1951	66,439	1	—	10	6	0.24

### SURVEY BY MASS X-RAY UNIT.

A Mass X-Ray Survey was carried out in Slough during the early months of the year and it was originally intended that the Mass X-Ray Unit No. 5A of the North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board would stay for eight weeks, six weeks being allocated to organised groups and two weeks to the general public. The number of volunteers from factories and organised groups was so great, however, that the Unit paid a return visit for three weeks during May.

During the eleven weeks for which the Unit eventually stayed, no less than 19,614 people took advantage of the services offered, 15,689 coming from factories and organised groups which included banks, local authorities, etc., and 3,925 attended the public sessions. It is interesting to note that out of the 56% of persons employed by organisations who took part in the survey 65% of women workers volunteered while only 51% of men did so.

From the organised groups 1.8 per thousand needed treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis and although this figure gives no cause for satisfaction, it is by no means a high figure for an initial survey. A higher percentage of males than females over the age of 30 was discovered and bilateral lesions were a little higher than unilateral ones.

A number of cases of pneumoconiosis were discovered and these were, as may be imagined, found in men who had at one time worked in the Welsh coal-mines where the disease is very common; two of the cases were complicated by pulmonary tuberculosis. The majority of the men concerned were already aware of their condition.

It is not possible to reach any conclusion about the probable incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis among the general public, as although almost 4,000 attended the public sessions this is only a small portion of the population. Only three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered.

Although the term "Mass X-Ray" is associated in the minds of most people with tuberculosis, other chest diseases and abnormalities are discovered and although these may not be so important from the point of view of the community they are important to the individual who may, in many cases, be able to obtain treatment for a condition which may not even have been suspected.



## B.C.G. VACCINATION.

The Medical Research Unit is carrying out trials to discover the value of B.C.G. vaccination in the prevention of tuberculosis. These trials are being held at various places in the country and once again Slough has been selected as suitable. A series of controlled trials are being carried out on children during their last year at school and follow-up is being maintained during subsequent years. It is not expected that the results of these trials will be available for two years.

## IV. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Centre.	Location.	Sessions.	Sessions with Medical Officer.
Cippenham .....	Central Hall, Bower Way.	Fridays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.
Langley .....	Women's Institute Hall, Elmhurst Road.	2nd and 4th Fridays, 2 p.m.	4th Friday.
Slough Health Centre	Burlington Road.	Mondays, 2 p.m. Thurs., 2 p.m.	All sessions. 1st Thursday.
St. Michael's	Slough Community Centre, Farnham Road.	Mondays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.
Wexham Road	Wexham Road Community Centre.	Fridays, 2 p.m.	All sessions.

It has usually been found that children over the age of eighteen months or two years rarely attend Infant Welfare Clinics and it has also been found that many children, when examined as entrants at school, have defects which have arisen in the period from 2—5 years. "Toddlers" clinics have been held quarterly at Farnham Royal and St. Michael's clinics since the beginning of 1951 and have proved very successful; it is hoped that an extension of these clinics may later be made. In order to ensure that adequate time is given for the doctor to make a comprehensive survey of the child in conjunction with the mother, an appointment system has been instituted. Appointments or invitations are normally issued by Health Visitors but any mother living in the areas served by these clinics may ask the Health Visitor for an appointment.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINICS.

Centre.	Sessions.
Cippenham .....	1st Thursday, 10.30 a.m.
Langley .....	3rd Tuesday, 11 a.m.
Slough Health Centre .....	Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.
St. Michael's .....	1st Monday, 2 p.m.
Wexham Road .....	2nd Friday, 2 p.m.

## ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Location.	Ante-Natal Clinic.	Post-Natal Clinic.
Upton Hospital.	Mondays, 1.30 p.m. (First bookings). Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.	Mondays, 11 a.m.
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital Out-Patient Dept. (Hut behind Community Centre, Farnham Road.)	Mondays, 9.30 a.m. (First bookings). Thursdays, 9.30 a.m.	Mondays, 11 a.m.

In addition to these clinics there is a Midwives' Ante-Natal clinic held at the Health Centre, Burlington Road, for those cases whose confinements are to take place at home. In these cases, post-natal care is undertaken by the family doctor.

### ANTE-NATAL BLOOD TESTS.

Routine examinations of the blood of expectant mothers has continued with the kind assistance of the Pathologist at the Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow. The incompatibility which sometimes arises owing to differences in the Rhesus factor of the father's and mother's blood cannot be altered but steps can be taken to minimise this effect and the success of these measures has been shown by the great reduction in infant deaths from this cause.

### SCHOOL CLINICS.

These clinics are part of the School Health Service and are available to all children of school age and also to those attending Nursery Schools. All clinics are held at the Burlington Road Health Centre. A Minor Ailments Clinic is held every morning by Health Visitors and a doctor is in attendance on Thursday mornings. Visits to the Dentists or Eye Specialists are arranged by appointment.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held on Thursday mornings at 9.30 a.m.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic is at the Kipling Memorial Building, Alma Road, Windsor, with a subsidiary clinic at Upton Hospital, Slough. All arrangements are made by the Chest Physician who is available at the Windsor Clinic. (Tel. No. Windsor 2033.)

### VENEREAL DISEASES.

The nearest treatment centres are :—

King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.  
Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.  
Hillingdon Hospital, Hillingdon.

### MARRIED WOMEN'S ADVISORY CLINIC.

Community Centre, Farnham Road	.....	.....	Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.
(Entrance—Buckingham Avenue)			
Health Centre, Burlington Road	.....	.....	Fridays, 2.30—4 p.m.

## DAY AND SHORT-STAY NURSERIES.

The following Nurseries, administered by the County Council, are situated in the Borough.

- (a) Day Nurseries for children from 0—3 years :  
(i) Baylis Court, Oatlands Drive, Slough.  
(ii) Manor Park, Penn Road, Slough.

Applications for admission should be made to the Area Medical Officer, "Glenhartie," 15, Bath Road, Slough.

- (b) Short-Stay Residential Nursery,  
"Brookside," Salt Hill, Slough.

Applications for admission should be made to the Children's Officer, 22, Silver Street, Aylesbury.

## HOSPITALS.

The Borough of Slough is served by the following hospitals and maternity homes, the majority of which are situated outside the Borough.

### General Hospitals.

Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough.  
King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.  
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow.  
Old Windsor Hospital, Old Windsor.  
Iver, Denham and Langley Cottage Hospital, Iver.

### Infectious Diseases Hospitals.

Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.  
St. John's Hospital, Uxbridge.

### Sanatorium.

All admissions arranged by the Chest Physician, Chest Clinic, Kipling Memorial Building, Alma Road, Windsor.

### Maternity Accommodation.

Upton Hospital, Albert Street, Slough.  
Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow.  
Colinswood Nursing Home, Farnham Common.

Applications for admission are dealt with by the County Medical Officer of Health, County Offices, Aylesbury.

### Part III Accommodation.

Aged persons—Sick ..... Upton Hospital.  
Non-Sick ..... Upton Towers.

### Registered Nursing Homes.

There are two registered nursing homes in Slough for the aged and infirm :—

Heathfield Nursing Home, 10, Uxbridge Road, Slough.  
Parkside Nursing Home, Upton Court Road, Slough.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## of

### THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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- Section A — General Administration.
  - Section B — Housing.
  - Section C — Supervision of Food Supplies.
  - Section D — Factories, Workplaces and Shops.
  - Section E — General Sanitation.
  - Section F — Pest Infestation Control.
  - Section G — Miscellaneous.
- 

#### SECTION A.

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

TABLE No. 1.

**Summary :**

Total Inspections	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,195
Complaints received and investigated	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,375
Preliminary Notices Served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	760
Secondary Notices Served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	152
Statutory Notices Served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Letters Received	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,799
Letters Despatched	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,484
Interviews with Property Owners, Agents and Builders	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	995

TABLE No. 2.

#### Analysis of Inspection Work performed by the District Sanitary Inspectors.

Housing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,783
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,462
Premises at which Food is Prepared, Stored and Sold	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,160
Dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	143
Factories and Workplaces	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	696
Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,111
General Sanitation	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,948
Pest Infestation Control	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	286
Building Licensing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	540



TABLE No. 3.

**Premises at which Improvements were effected.**

Dwelling-houses (rendered habitable).....	299
Premises used for Preparation and Sale of Food .....	67
Factories and Workplaces .....	38
Shops .....	33
Drainage (reconstruction, repair, etc.) .....	434
Portable dustbins provided .....	49

**New Legislation.**

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, came into operation on 1st November, 1951, repealing the Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928, and thereby giving to local authorities additional powers and duties to secure high standards of cleanliness of filling materials in upholstered articles, etc. The Act forbids the use of certain specified filling materials for such purposes as upholstery, the stuffing or lining of bedding, toys and baby carriages and articles of such other kinds as may be prescribed, except on premises which have been registered by the local authority. Premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored must be licensed by the local authority for periods not exceeding twelve months. Regulations under the Act prescribe standards of cleanliness for filling materials.

**SECTION B.****HOUSING.****Obsolescent Houses.**

Owing to house-building restrictions at a national level and to our own local difficulties connected with main drainage, the increase of housing accommodation is not yet sufficient to provide alternative accommodation for families occupying some 300 to 400 obsolescent houses ripe for demolition procedure. These sub-standard houses, generally let at a low rental and having outlived their usefulness, must, therefore, remain occupied, subject to such first-aid repairs as become necessary from time to time and can be reasonably expected, until the necessary alternative accommodation can be provided. This problem is facing many local authorities throughout the country.

**Undertaking by Owner in lieu of Demolition**

(Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936).

Action was taken under the Demolition Order provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of the under-mentioned house which had become dangerous to the occupants and was dealt with as an emergency measure. The owners of the property offered to the Corporation an undertaking which was accepted for the demolition of a part of the premises and the adaptation of the remaining building for use solely as business premises. The two displaced families were provided by the Corporation with alternative accommodation.

110, Albert Street, Slough.

**Closing of Parts of Buildings**

(Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936).

During the year a survey was made of twenty-two basements of houses

situated at Upton Park. This survey revealed that in three cases underground rooms were occupied as separate dwellings and in five instances basement rooms were used for dwelling accommodation, not including sleeping purposes. Fourteen basements were found to be unoccupied.

To prevent the occupation of the latter and to deal with those underground rooms occupied and partially used, none of which could be rendered fit for human habitation at reasonable cost, action was commenced under the Housing Act, 1936, Closing Orders being made in fifteen cases. Undertakings not to permit occupation for human habitation were accepted from the owners of the remaining properties.

### Repair and Improvement of Dwelling-houses.

Eight hundred and thirty dwelling-houses were surveyed during the year, as a result of which action in pursuance of the various provisions of the Public Health and Housing Acts, involving some 2,530 re-inspections followed. This action resulted in 229 dwellings being rendered habitable.

Two hundred and thirty-nine complaints relating to insanitary or defective housing accommodation were received from members of the public.

To deal with the above-mentioned conditions, it was found necessary to serve 798 written preliminary notices and to give 114 verbal intimations. In most instances informal notification received prompt attention, but in 43 cases it was necessary to resort to statutory action.

There were no applications made which complied with the prescribed qualifying conditions for Improvement Grants for dwelling-houses in pursuance of the Housing Act, 1949.

### Repair of Properties in Default of Owners.

In the five under-mentioned cases of failure of owners of property to comply with statutory notices, it was necessary to resort to default action, works amounting to £245. 8s. 0d. being executed by the Corporation, the cost of which is recoverable from the owners concerned.

<i>Property.</i>	<i>Works Executed.</i>					<i>Cost.</i>		
						£	s.	d.
8, Stoke Road.	Housing Act, 1936. Section 9.					24	10	0
20, " "	"	"	"	"	"	164	2	0
24, " "	"	"	"	"	"	26	11	0
116, Bath Road.	"	"	"	"	"	6	10	0
15, Mackenzie Street.	"	"	"	"	"	23	15	0

### Overcrowding.

Owing to the continued shortage of housing accommodation, the overcrowding of dwelling-houses has shown little change and continues to present a problem which is being slowly met, as houses become available, by the re-housing of the worst cases. Although there were only sixteen complaints relating to overcrowding received by the Department during the year, the degree of overcrowding, having regard not only to the statutory standard but to generally congested housing conditions, is obviously high in some areas of the Borough.

There were no applications received during 1951, in pursuance of Section 61 of the Housing Act, 1936, for licences permitting temporary overcrowding.

"Permitted Numbers" of eighteen dwelling-houses were supplied on request from the official records which are kept of all dwelling-houses within the Borough.

### **Allocation of Council Houses.**

In addition to several requests for support by applicants for alternative housing accommodation in council houses or in the sub-standard hutment accommodation at the several ex-military camps taken over by the Corporation, all of which were investigated, enquiries were also received from several other local authorities to whom Slough residents had applied for council-house accommodation.

Under the Council's new Points Scheme for the allocation of council houses, provision is made for points to be awarded on the advice of the Chief Sanitary Inspector under the heading of "Insanitary or Sub-standard housing accommodation," namely :—

- (a) Army hutments or houses earmarked for demolition, closing or clearance under the Housing Acts.
- (b) (i) Basement or internally structurally defective accommodation ;  
(ii) Excessive dampness ;  
(iii) Bad ventilation or deficient light ;  
(iv) External water supply.  
(v) Inadequate sanitary or washing arrangements.

### **Rent Restriction Certificates.**

No certificates relating to the state of repair of dwelling-houses were granted in pursuance of the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts, 1920-1939.

### **Information re Local Land Charges.**

Information as to statutory orders made in respect of dwelling-houses, and of non-complied-with statutory notices upon properties within the Borough is supplied by the Department upon request for official search of the Land Charges Register. During the year the requisite information was supplied in respect of 1,540 properties.

### **Disinfestation of Verminous Premises.**

Fifty-seven complaints of infestation of dwellings and articles were received and routine examination of 830 dwelling-houses for the detection of vermin was made, disinfestation treatment being found to be necessary at 64 dwellings of which 22 were Corporation properties. Few complaints of re-infestation of houses previously treated by the Department were received.

## **SECTION C.**

### **SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.**

#### **Hygiene of Food Premises and Food Handling.**

Throughout the year under review the importance of food hygiene has been kept to the fore-front, every opportunity having been taken in raising premises at which food is prepared or sold to a reasonably high standard, as also has the advising of traders and their staffs upon satisfactory methods of practising food hygiene. It has been found too, that many opportunities occur for informing the consumer upon the principles of "clean" or "safe" food, the importance of which cannot be over emphasised.



During the latter part of the year an intensive survey of all food establishments serving the public was commenced, and this continued into 1952. Catering establishments were dealt with first, to be followed by retail food shops of various trades. The purpose of the survey is to classify establishments into three categories and thereby obtain comprehensive data for future guidance in ultimately attaining a reasonably high target. Premises are being graded as follows :—

- (A) Those establishments at which premises, methods practised, and the personnel are found to be well above minimum statutory and byelaw requirements and where encouragement to maintain or even improve upon the present standard can be given to advantage.
- (B) Establishments at which the hygienic conditions only comply with the minimum statutory and byelaw requirements, but with effort on an advisory basis will, no doubt, attain a higher standard ; and
- (C) Those premises at which conditions are found to fall below statutory and byelaw requirements leaving much to be desired, and in which cases concentrated effort and continual supervision by the district sanitary inspectors will be necessary.

During the year 1,212 visits were made by the district sanitary inspectors in the supervising of food hygiene at restaurants, cafes, factory canteens and retail food shops and my Deputy has devoted much time to the co-ordination of this work in the several districts of the Borough. As far as has been found practicable, notices, both written and verbal, in respect of desirable improvements in relation, not only to premises and equipment, but also to methods which are of such vital importance, have been given on an advisory basis, and it is with satisfaction that I can record the whole-hearted support and co-operation of many of our food traders.

### **Milk and Dairies.**

Thirty-four persons are registered by the Corporation as Distributors of Milk and eleven premises are registered as Dairies. The dairies were regularly inspected and found to be generally maintained in a satisfactory condition. At the end of the year, one dairy was in the course of reconstruction, which upon completion will have the effect of centralising the heat-treatment of milk in the district to a greater extent.

Forty-three licences were issued in pursuance of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1949, as follows :—

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licences .....	3
Dealer's Tuberculin Tested Milk Licences .....	10
Dealer's Pasteurised Milk Licences .....	9
Dealer's Sterilised Milk Licences .....	15
Supplementary Licences .....	6

### **Bacteriological Examination of Milk.**

During the year 1951, 218 routine samples of heat-treated and raw milks were procured for examination at the Department's laboratory, to ascertain the bacteriological quality and the efficiency of heat treatment. Of the samples examined 1.8% were certified to be unsatisfactory as compared with



8.9% in the previous year and of designated milks 1.4% were unsatisfactory as compared with 10.4% in 1950. The results are detailed in Table No. 4. Samples of heat-treated milk were also procured from three approved and licensed pasteurisation plants at the request of the Ministry of Food, Milk Division, to whom results of examination were submitted monthly.

TABLE No. 4.  
Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Classification	Number of Samples Tested	Number of Samples	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised Milk .....	98	98	—
Tuberculin-Tested (Pasteurised) Milk .....	87	86	1
Tuberculin-Tested Milk .....	14	12	2
Sterilised Milk .....	9	9	—
Non-designated, heat treated Milk .....	9	8	1
Non-designated, raw Milk .....	1	1	—

### Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream.

The number of premises appearing on the register at the close of the year were 7 used for the purpose of manufacture and 131 used for the retail sale of ice-cream. Twelve applications for registration of premises for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream in pursuance of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were approved by the Health and Sanitation Committee during the year. It was not found necessary to refuse any applications.

In most instances, ice-cream is now manufactured on a large scale and sold in a pre-packed condition. In pursuance of the local "Clean" food campaign registered premises are kept under strict supervision and improvements in premises, equipment and methods effected wherever possible. For that purpose 222 visits were made by the district sanitary inspectors.

On 1st March, 1951, ice-cream became the subject of a Food Standards Order, a step that has been advocated by public health officers for some years. The Order provides for a minimum content of 5 per cent. fat, 10 per cent. sugar, and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. milk solids other than fat.

During the year under review 199 samples of ice-cream were procured both at the place of manufacture and upon retail sale. 87 per cent. of the samples were satisfactory.

### Manufacture and Sale of Preserved Food.

At the close of the year fifty-five premises appeared upon the register in pursuance of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These premises are used for the manufacture of sausages and potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods intended for sale for human consumption and include 18 fish friers premises.

One hundred and eighty-nine inspections were made by the district inspectors and improvements were carried out at 19 premises. The premises were found generally to be maintained at a satisfactory hygienic standard.

## Bakehouses.

Premises on Register	.....	.....	.....	14
Basement Bakehouses	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Inspections by District Sanitary Inspectors	.....			30
Notices served re Contraventions	.....	.....		4

## Food and Drugs.

Four hundred and eighty-four samples of foods and drugs, representing 7.1 samples per thousand of the population were procured by the Corporation sampling officers for analysis ; as compared with 324 samples during the previous year. Of these samples 275 were submitted to the Public Analyst and 209 milk samples were informally tested at the Town Hall Laboratory. Samples of milk were procured periodically upon delivery at Upton Hospital and the Nurses' Hostel in response to a request by the Windsor Group Hospital Management Committee. Attention was given to the various foods manufactured within the Borough and in particular to foods appearing upon the market for the first time.

The articles of foods and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst are detailed in Table No. 5. Of these, the Public Analyst reported adversely upon 10 samples, i.e., 3.6% of the samples submitted to him as compared with 2.4% in 1950 ; 9.8% in 1949 and 5.5% in 1948.

In 3 instances the institution of summary proceedings were authorised by the Health and Sanitation Committee, the action taken in respect of these samples which were the subject of adverse analytical reports being set out in Table No. 6. The average quality of the milk samples examined was fat 3.83% and solids-not-fat 8.85%, as compared with 3.72% and 8.82% in 1950, which is well above the minimum presumptive statutory standard.

## Preservatives and Colouring Matters.

One hundred and twenty-three samples of foods submitted to the public analyst were examined for the presence of prohibited preservatives and colouring matter and permitted preservatives in excessive quantities. No adverse reports were received.

## Labelling of Food.

Two offences under the Labelling of Food Order, 1950, were dealt with, namely, sample No. 162 "Salad Dressing" and sample No. 189 "Dressed Crab." Particulars of the action taken are contained in Table No. 6.

## Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

No contraventions were observed.

## Merchandise Marks Acts.

One test purchase of poultry was made under the Act of 1887. No offences were observed during the year.

During the war the Minister of Food exercised emergency powers to suspend the Marking Orders made under the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1926, relating to eggs, bacon, butter, dried fruit, meat and poultry. Except for eggs, those suspensions ceased on 24th May, 1951, and in the case of poultry 1st September, 1951. At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, all merchants, shopkeepers and traders concerned within the Borough were visited by the district sanitary inspectors and circularised as to the coming into operation again of the Marking Orders. These Orders require specified foodstuffs to be labelled with an indication as to the country of origin.

TABLE No. 5.

## Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.

	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
<b>FOODS :</b>				
Almonds, ground, salted or sugared	3			
Baking powder	3			
Black pudding	1			
Blancmange powder.....	1			
Brawn	1			
Breadcrumbs, golden	1			
Breadroll		1		1
Cake flour	1			
Cayenne, ground	1			
Cherries, glaze	2			
Christmas pudding	1			
Cinnamon, ground	1			
Cocktail, non-alcoholic tomato juice	1			
Cocoa .....	1			
Coconut, desiccated .....	1			
Coffee	3			
Coffee and chicory, essence of	5			
Coralettes	2			
Cordials	3			
Curry powder	2			
Custard mix or powder	6			
Dressed crab .....	1		1	
Essences and flavours	5	1		
Fish cakes	1			
Forcemeat, parsley and thyme	1			
Fruit cup, orange	1			
Fruit juices	2			
Galantine	1			
Gelatin	1			
Ginger beer	1			
Ginger, ground or preserved	3			
Ginger wine, non-alcoholic	1		1	
Gluconis	1			
Gravy browning, powder, or salt	5			
Ham roll	1			
Herbs, dried	1			
Hogs pudding	1			
Honey	1			
Ice cream	9	3		
Jam, blackcurrant	1			
Jellies	11		1	
Lemonade crystals	1			
Meat, luncheon	2			
Milk	4		3	
Mint in vinegar	1			
Nutmeg, ground	1			
Oat food		1		1

TABLE No. 5 (contd.)

Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.				
	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Olive oil .....	3			
Orange curd .....	1			
Peel, lemon and orange cut .....	1			
Pepper .....	10			
Pies, pork .....	2			
Pork, chopped .....	1			
Rice, flaked or ground .....	3			
Salad dressing .....	1		1	
Sauces .....	8			
Sausages, beef, pork, liver, breakfast, luncheon and savoury .....	37	1		
Soups .....	1	1		1
Spice, mixed or pickling .....	3			
Sponge cake, and pudding mixture .....	8	1		
Squash, blended fruit .....	1			
Stuffing .....	2			
Suet, shredded beef.....	1			
<b>FOODS :</b>				
Sugar, barley or icing .....	2			
Sweetmeats .....	22	1		
Syrups .....	2			
Sweetening tablets .....	1			
Tea, herb .....	1			
Tomatoes, Italian peeled .....		2		
Veal, jellied, or loaf .....	2			
Vinegar, apple or malt .....	11			
<b>SPIRITS :</b>				
Brandy .....	1			
Gin .....	2			
Rum .....	3			
Whisky .....	12			
<b>DRUGS :</b>				
Aniseed, compound balsam of .....	1			
Aspirin, tablets of .....	1			
Bicarbonate of soda .....	2			
Borax and honey .....	1			
Calcium lactate tablets .....	1			
Castor oil .....	1			
Cinnamon tablets .....	1			
Cinnamon and quinine, ammoniated .....	1			
Cream of tartar .....	2			
Epsom salts .....	1			
Glycerine, lemon, and honey .....	1			
Glycerine, lemon, and ipecac .....	1			
Herbal tablets .....	1			



TABLE No. 5 (cont.)

## Summary of Food and Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.

	Procured		Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Liver oil capsules, halibut .....	1			
Quinine, ammoniated tincture of .....	1			
Quinine with oil of cinnamon, ammoniated tincture of .....	1			
Syrup, honey cough .....	1			
Syrup, rose hip .....	2			
Thymol, glycerin of .....	1			
Vitamin tablets, mineral .....	1			
Totals :	263	12	7-	3

In addition to the above samples, 209 unofficial samples of milk were tested informally, of which 21 were found to be sub-standard.

TABLE No. 6.

## Food and Drugs Samples Reported not to be Genuine.

Sample No.	Food.	Adulteration.	Action Taken.
35 (Formal)	Non-Alcoholic Ginger Wine	False description.	Referred to Ministry of Food— still under consideration.
159 (Formal)	Blackcurrant Jelly Dessert.	51% deficient in sugar.	Manufacturer cautioned.
162 (Formal)	Salad Dressing.	False description.	Vendor, who was cautioned, withdrew from sale remaining stock.
189 (Formal)	Dressed Crab.	18.3% deficient in crab meat.	Manufacturer cautioned.
190 (Informal)	Oat Food.	Contained 0.33% wool.	Manufacturer informed.
201 (Informal)	Concentrated Tomato Soup.	Contained 4.02 grs. per lb. metallic tin.	Consignment voluntarily surrendered.
415 (Formal)	Milk.	Contained 13.2% added water.	Summary proceedings insti- tuted. Vendor convicted and fined £15 in respect of each offence, i.e., £45, and £18. 1s. 0d. costs.
416 (Formal)	Milk.	Contained 15.4% added water.	
417 (Formal)	Milk.	Contained 12.6% added water.	

## Foreign Bodies in Foodstuffs.

During the year several complaints were received concerning the sale of foodstuffs containing foreign bodies. In some cases the period which had elapsed between the time of purchase and the laying of the complaint, of interference by the complainant of the specimen, and in some cases of the production of the foreign body without the food, made it impossible to take effective action.

In the following two cases summary proceedings were authorised by the Borough Council :—

<i>Nature of Complaint.</i>	<i>Action taken.</i>
1. Bread-roll containing cat excreta.	Summary proceedings under Section 9 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Vendor convicted and fined £25 and £1. 1s. 0d. costs.
2. Current-bun containing metal nail.	Summary proceedings under Section 9 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Vendor convicted and fined £35 and £2. 2s. 0d. costs.

## Meat and Food Inspection.

Slaughtering by the Ministry of Food continued at Cippenham Court Farm requisitioned slaughterhouse, this being the twelfth year of Government controlled, centralised slaughtering. The proposed improvements at the slaughterhouse, of which I made mention in my Report for 1950, were carried out during the years 1951/52, the slaughterhouse being closed from September, 1951, for the remainder of the year and this accounts for the decrease in the number of animals slaughtered during 1951.

Consideration as to the provision of a Municipal Abattoir for the Borough has continued and further discussions have taken place between officers of the Corporation and the Ministry of Food, Meat & Livestock Division, at Guildford. Government policy as to the future of slaughtering is still awaited.

Some 7,604 animals were slaughtered for food, 100 per cent. examination of carcasses and organs being carried out by your officers who are qualified as Food Inspectors, some 622 visits being made for that purpose at all times of the day and evening, including week-ends and bank holidays. Eighteen tons of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption. (See Tables 7 and 8.)

Much time was also devoted to the inspection of foods (other than meat) at shops, warehouses and factories, some 399 visits being made for that purpose. It was found necessary to condemn  $8\frac{1}{2}$  tons of foodstuffs (see Table No. 9).

TABLE No. 7.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle Ex. Cows	Cows	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Calves
No. of animals slaughtered and inspected .....	1,344	520	3,763	1,163	814
Disease except tuberculosis: Whole carcases condemned .....	6	10	2	35	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	330	164	87	69	2
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	25.0	33.5	2.4	9.0	0.6
Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned .....	8	7	—	7	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	145	148	—	20	1
% of No. inspected affected with tuberculosis .....	11.4	29.8	—	2.3	0.1

TABLE No. 8.

## Weights of Condemned Meat.

	Tuberculosis. cwts. qrs. lbs.			Other Diseases. cwts. qrs. lbs.		
Carcases .....	82	—	25	95	3	12
Parts of Carcases or Organs .....	80	1	10	106	—	27
TOTALS .....	162	2	7	202	—	11

TOTAL WEIGHT :—18 tons 4 cwts. 2 qrs. 18 lbs.

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Licences to slaughter animals in slaughterhouses and knackers yards, and subject to annual renewal, were granted to nine slaughtermen. No contraventions of the Act were observed.

**TABLE No. 9.**  
**Weights of Canned and Other Foods Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption. (lbs.)**

Canned Food	Preserves	Fish	Bacon	Imported Meat	Vegetables
16,109	7	474	283	847	1
Fruit	Cereals	Eggs (No.)	Cheese	Misc.	
347	114	3	103	953	
TOTAL WEIGHT: 8 tons 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 5 lbs.					

### SECTION D. FACTORIES, WORKPLACES AND SHOPS.

#### Factories.

Having regard to the industrial character of the Borough of Slough and particularly of the Trading Estate factory centre, the supervision of factories in which mechanical power is both used and not used is a matter of some importance. Inspections were made, not only in respect of those provisions relating to health, which, under the Factories Act, 1937, it is the duty of the Local Authority to enforce, but also for the purpose of detecting and abating public health nuisances. Consideration was given to a number of complaints relating to alleged "Noise Nuisances" but it was not found necessary to take any action in pursuance of the Slough Corporation Act, 1949. Tables 10 and 11 show the visits made, the defects which were found and generally as to the results which have been achieved in the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 :—

**TABLE No. 10.**  
**Inspection of Factories.**

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	36	94	22	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	517	397	69	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



TABLE No. 11.  
Improvements Effected at Factories.

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.  (6)
	Fnd.  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient .....	11	4	—	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	61	28	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers) .....	1	1	4	—	—
TOTALS .....	79	38	4	2	Nil

### Outworkers.

Lists received in February and August, 1951, from employers within the Borough, in pursuance of Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, returned 135 homeworkers in various specified occupations, principally the making and altering of wearing apparel. Twenty-six lists of outworkers residing in other towns were sent to local authorities concerned, and lists of outworkers residing in Slough were received from 8 local authorities.

Homework was found to be carried on at 66 premises within the Borough, all of which were visited to ensure that work was executed under satisfactory conditions, 119 inspections being made for that purpose.

### Shops Act, 1950, and Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938.

Careful attention was given to the enforcement of the above-mentioned Acts, the provisions of which were found to be reasonably well observed. A classified list of shops of various trades was given in the Annual Report for 1949, since when little change has taken place. The following inspections were made, improvements effected and action taken :—

#### (a) Inspections :

Arrangements for the health and comfort of shop workers.....	350
Conditions of employment .....	118
Hours of employment of young persons .....	48
Hours of closing .....	255
Sunday trading .....	340

(b) *Improvements Effected at Shops :*

Provision of additional sanitary accommodation	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Provision of washing facilities	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Means of lighting or heating improved	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Facilities provided for taking meals	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Notices displayed	.....	.....	.....	.....	6

(c) *Sunday Trading—Summary Proceedings :*

During the year it was found necessary to resort to the institution of summary proceedings under Section 47 of the Shops Act, 1950 (provisions as to Sunday Trading) in the following three cases :—

- (i) One offence relating to the sale of non-permitted goods. The vendor was convicted and fined £1.
- (ii) Four offences relating to the sale of non-permitted goods and one offence in respect of failure to display the requisite notices. The vendor was convicted and fined £3 in respect of each offence—Total £15.
- (iii) Four offences relating to the sale of non-permitted goods and one offence in respect of failure to display the requisite notices. The vendor was convicted and fined £3 in respect of the four offences relating to the sale of goods and £5 in respect of the latter offence—Total £17.

**Workplaces.**

Eighty-six visits were made to workplaces including offices, but excluding shops.

**Places of Entertainment.**

During the year 30 visits were made by the district sanitary inspectors to various buildings used for the purpose of public entertainment.

**SECTION E.**

**GENERAL SANITATION.**

**Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement.**

Atmospheric pollution is a matter which continually receives the closest attention. Although Slough is industrial in character it can claim to be a town which is comparatively free of heavy smoke and grit emission. This is partly due to the extensive use of electricity in lieu of steam, which is now found as a motive power in light industry and also because of the vigilance of the Department in dealing with excessive emissions immediately they occur, thereby preserving these conditions. Two of your officers are specially qualified to deal with matters relating to smoke abatement, which is closely related to fuel efficiency.

During the year there were only 7 complaints of alleged nuisances arising from the emission of smoke or grit, but 113 observations of chimneys of steam-raising and other industrial plant were made by the district sanitary inspectors and 97 interviews with works managers and engineers took place. It was not found necessary to take any statutory action or to seek the assistance of the Ministry of Fuel and Power as in previous years.

The extensive nuisance arising from the emission of offensive effluvia from a factory manufacturing domestic animal feeding stuffs referred to in the Annual Report for 1950, was finally abated by the firm in question removing from the district.

Although, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, it is not possible to deal with domestic smoke emission, which undoubtedly accounts for much atmospheric pollution, this problem is gradually being solved by the adoption of the new approved domestic fuel appliances which provide more efficient means of combustion than the more obsolescent types of fittings which they are replacing.

The Slough Corporation is an affiliated authority both of the National Smoke Abatement Society and the London and Home Counties Smoke Abatement Advisory Council, your Chief Sanitary Inspector being a member of the Executive Committee of both organisations.

### **Moveable Dwellings.**

At the close of the year 1951 there was one camping site licensed to accommodate 4 dwellings and 37 licensed moveable dwellings stationed in various parts of the Borough, in the supervision of which 249 visits of inspection were made.

It was a matter of concern to the Health and Sanitation Committee that owing to the difficult housing situation experienced at Slough and in the surrounding area, many people have resorted to living in moveable dwellings under sub-standard conditions, which have a tendency to become somewhat permanent, and with unsightly shacks being erected in the vicinity of the caravans often rendering them immobile.

Frequently, caravans are stationed upon unsuitable sites without previous reference having been made to your officers, applications for the requisite consent under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1937, and for licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, being made afterwards. In all these matters I am indebted to the Area Planning Officer for his co-operation. Consideration was given by the Borough Council to the possibility of providing a camping site within the Borough.

It was not found necessary to institute summary proceedings for illicit camping or other contraventions, during the year.

### **Offensive Trades.**

The only offensive trades carried on within the Borough are those of a soap-boiler and a rag and bone dealer, in respect of which the annual consent of the Corporation was renewed in pursuance of the Public Health Act, 1936. Nineteen visits of inspection were made and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

### **House Drainage.**

The reconstruction and repair of drainage systems of dwellings and other buildings demanded much attention, in the supervision of which some 22 visits were made.

Two hundred and forty complaints of nuisances arising from defective or obstructed drains and defective sanitary fittings, etc., received attention. At 34 premises drainage systems were reconstructed and at 336 premises other improvements were effected, 60 hydraulic and smoke tests being applied. The cesspools of 4 dwelling-houses were abolished and the drainage systems connected to the public sewer.



## Water Sampling.

There are now only six dwelling-houses within the Borough at which the water supply is derived from shallow wells, and four houses situated in an isolated area which are served by a piped-supply of spring water. The latter supply, upon bacteriological examination, was found to be unsatisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes, and at the close of the year consideration was being given to the possibility of providing an alternative means of supply.

Fifty-five samples of water were procured for examination and 83 visits were made in connection with water supplies and sampling as follows :—

Domestic water supply .....	8
Food premises water supply .....	5
Swimming baths .....	38
Miscellaneous samples .....	4

## The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

In pursuance of the above-mentioned Act, 6 upholsterers' premises have been registered and one licence has been granted for the storage of rag flock. No samples were taken during the year.

## SECTION F.

### PEST INFESTATION CONTROL.

The Pest Infestation Section of the Health Department, with the personnel of a Pest Control Officer and five rodent operators, has continued to carry out pest infestation control work under the following headings :—

- (a) Private dwellings—(free service).
- (b) Industrial and business premises—(short-term treatment—re-chargeable).
- (c) Industrial and business premises — (Annual Agreement Scheme).
- (d) Sewer treatment.
- (e) Local authority premises.
- (f) Destruction of pests other than rodents—(re-chargeable).

A Government grant-in-aid of 50 per cent. of approved expenditure upon rodent control is made in respect of the treatment of private dwellings, sewers and local authority properties, subject to an efficient control service being maintained by the local authority.

### Rodent Control.

Four-hundred and four notifications of infestation by rats and mice received attention, this being an increase of 22 per cent. over notifications received during 1950, and a gradual increase from 68 seven years ago, from which it is evident that the public have an appreciation as to the value of notification. These notifications and other work of investigation resulted in 934 visits being made by the district sanitary inspectors and the pest control officer in addition to the work of the rodent operators, summarised in Table No. 13.

No "reservoir" or "major" infestations are known to exist within the Borough and in certain areas there appears to be somewhat of a decrease



in infestation, but, of course, the utmost vigilance is necessary to maintain and improve upon this position. In accordance with the requirements of the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the treatment of sewers was carried out twice during the year.

### Annual Agreement Scheme.

This scheme was first introduced in April, 1949, and has since become very popular in Slough. It was designed to meet the requirements of industrial and business firms particularly where food is handled, manufactured or stored, including canteens. In Rodent Control work it is essential not only to carry out disinfection treatment with thoroughness but also by periodic visits to ensure that premises remain free of infestation.

The scheme provides for continuous preventative measures by periodic servicing, and is particularly valuable at premises where infestation is likely to recur. Treatment of business premises is entirely re-chargeable work and so far as this scheme is concerned it has so far proved to be self-supporting.

The following table shows the increasing popularity of the annual agreement scheme during the three years in which it has been in operation.

TABLE No. 12.

Annual Agreement Scheme			
Year.	No. of Agreements.	No. of separate Premises involved.	Total Sum.
1949/50	55	77	£ 754
1950/51	92	131	1,054
1951/52	120	151	1,463

### Other Pests.

Treatment for the eradication of pests and insects other than rodents is also carried out as follows :—

Wasps nests .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
Beetles .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Flies .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Other Insects .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12

**TABLE No. 13.**  
**RODENT INFESTATION CONTROL (RODENT OPERATORS)**

		Private Dwellings	Business Premises		Sewer Treatment (Manholes)	Refuse Destructor, Tips, Dumps, etc.	Parks, Hedges, Ditches, etc.	Other Council Properties	TOTALS
			Agreement Annual Scheme	Short Term Action					
1.	Premises at which investigation was made .....	1,125	125	38	497	4	11	14	1,814
2.	Premises treated by the Corporation .....	973	120	33	497	4	6	8	1,641
3.	Pre-Baits Laid .....	4,812	11,142	396	497	284	631	102	17,864
4.	Poison Baits Laid .....	3,571	4,783	208	25	149	404	52	9,192
5.	Poison Baits Taken .....	2,760	2,367	104	25	79	199	25	5,559
6.	No. of Visits Made .....	4,277	4,951	126	1,209	40	196	65	10,864

## SECTION G.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### Building Licensing.

Building licences permitting the execution of Housing work (other than the erection of new houses) exceeding the "free limit" of £100, were granted to the value of £15,766, the monetary ceiling for such licensing for the Borough having been fixed at £12,640 and subsequently raised to £16,000 for the year under review, by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The work carried out under the direction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is the Council's licensing officer for this purpose, was as follows :—

(i) Applications for Building Licences received and investigated .....	67
(ii) Applications granted .....	65
(iii) Applications refused .....	2
(iv) Visits of investigation made .....	261
(v) Interviews with Owners and Builders.....	279
(vi) Institution of summary proceedings for contravention of Defence Regulation 56A .....	3

In three cases it was necessary to institute proceedings as follows :—

- (i) Conversion of house into two flats without a building licence having been granted. Three Defendants were convicted, viz :—
 

Property Owner fined £10.	}	and £3. 3s. 0d. costs.
Architect fined £50.		
Builder fined £100.		
- (ii) Conversion of house into flats—summons withdrawn.
- (iii) Execution of works of alteration to a dwelling-house. Defendant (Owner and Builder) convicted and fined £75 plus £26. 10s. 0d. costs.

#### Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928-1936 and Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929.

Having regard to the fire-risk involved, the administration of the above Acts is a matter of some importance. The following work was carried out by the Department :—

Licences issued to store petroleum spirit .....	149
Licences issued to store carbide of calcium .....	4
Visits of inspection made by the District Sanitary Inspectors .....	328
Contraventions remedied .....	51
Total quantity of petroleum spirit stored under licence	473,677 galls.
Total quantity of carbide of calcium stored under licence	1,820 lbs.

#### Registries for Female Domestic Servants.

Eleven visits were made to Registries for female domestic servants in pursuance of Byelaws made by the Corporation in pursuance of Section 10 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. During the year the registry closed, leaving three persons on the register.

